

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VALLET 00268 081454Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 ACDA-19 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03 COME-00

EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 AID-20 OMB-01 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06

DRC-01 /191 W

----- 103638

R 081344Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5237

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VALLETTA 0268

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MT

NATIONALIST POLITICAL RALLY

REF: VALLETTA 0258

1. AT FEB 7 NATIONALIST PARTY RALLY, DEPUTY LEADER VINCENT TABONE REVEALED SOME DETAILS OF N.P. CONSULTATIONS WITH P.M. MINTOFF ON ENERGY CRISIS. NATIONALISTS, HE SAID, HAD REFUSED TO COOPERATE BECAUSE GOM DID NOT ASK TO CONSULT TO SEEK TO FACE THE CRISIS TOGETHER, BUTH RATHER TO GAIN THEIR SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD INCREASE ELECTRICITY RATES "ASTRONOMICALLY" AND GIVE GOM POWER TO INCREASE THOSE RATES RETROACTIVELY FOR THREE WEEKS (VALLETTA 222). N.P. WOULD ALWAYS REFUSE TO DO SOMETHING BEHIND THE BACKS OF THE PEOPLE, AND IF GOM WANTED COOPERATION, IT MUST SHOW ALL ITS CARDS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VALLET 00268 081454Z

2. TABONE AND OTHER SPEAKERS (BORG OLIVIER, GUIDO DEMARCO, AND LOUIS GALEA) WARNED GOM SHARPLY AGAINST ARBITRARY AND UNILATERAL CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION (VALLETTA 222), SAY THAT IF THEY DID SO, THEY WOULD LOSE THE RIGHT TO RULE.

3. B.O. SAID THAT DURING THE MLP ADMINISTRATION THE COUNTRY HAD FACED CRISIS AFTER CRISIS. THE MN.P., TOO, HAD FACED CRISIS AFTER CRISIS, SUCH AS THE UK FORCES RUN DOWN, QUARREL WITH HMG ON FINANCIAL PAYMENTS, CLOSURE OF SUEZ CANAL, STRIKES, ETC., BUT THE PEOPLE DID NOT SUFFER, AS THEY DO NOW, AND IN FACT HAD ENJOYED INCREASING BENEFITS. DURING THE MN.P. ADMINISTRATION THE MLP OPPOSITION HAD STRONGLY CRITICIZED THEM FOR A SHORTAGE OF BIRD SEED, NOW THERE ARE SHORTAGES OF EVERYTHING. THE MLP HAD RENTED MALTA TO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT THE PEOPLE HAD NOT BENEFITED. THE NP HAD, WITH HONOR, RECEIVED LESS FUNDS, BUT THEIR RESULTS EXCEEDED BY FAR THOSE OF THE MLP ADMINISTRATION.

4. NOT SURPRISINGLY, FEB 8 ISSUE OF TIMES OF MALTA GAVE GOOD COVERAGE TO N.P. RALLY. ITS EDITORIAL OF SAME DATE PRAISED THE FORMATION OF ITS SHADOW CABINET GENERALLY AND PARTICULARLY THE INCLUSION OF THE YOUNGER MPS. ALTHOUGH TIMES HAD BEEN CRITICAL OF B.O.'S LACK OF LEADERSHIP, IT NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THAT SHADOW CABINET INCLUDES HIM AND OTHER FORMER MINISTERS AND THAT THEIR EXPERIENCE GIVES GOOD BALANCE. "THE SHADOW CABINET AS A WHOLE, THEREFORE, REPRESENTS A CORRECT BALANCE OF NEW BLOOD AND PAST EXPERIENCE MERGING INTO ONE EFFICIENT TEAM."

5. COMMENT N.P. IS OBVIOUSLY ON THE ATTACK, IN PART TO COUNTER ANY SUCCESS MINTOFF MAY ANNOUNCE AS THE RESULT OF HIS MIDDLE EAST TOUR, BUT ALSO TO KICK OFF THE "NEW TEAM."GETZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, PETROLEUM, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ELECTRIC POWER
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VALLET00268
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740244/aaaabpge.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VALLETTA 0258
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, MT, NATIONALIST PARTY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005